

WEATHER FORECAST

Local Snow
Tonight and
Friday

LAS VEGAS OPTIC

WE PRINT
THE NEWS

If You Read
It In The
Optic, It's So.

VOL. XXXI, NO. 42

EAST LAS VEGAS, NEW MEXICO, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1909

FIVE O'CLOCK EDITION

SCANDAL IN BAPTIST CHURCH

REV. O. L. BISHOP'S RESIGNATION
IS DEMANDED BY CON-
GREGATION

PROMPTLY FORTHCOMING

DISCOVERY THAT PASTOR HAD
A "PAST" CAUSE OF
CHANGE

CREATES MILD SENSATION

MINISTER LOSES NO TIME IN
LEAVING CITY—NOW IN
COLORADO

A scandal in Las Vegas church circles which has caused a mild sensation, came to light today when it was announced that at a meeting of the members of the First Baptist church held last night, the resignation of Rev. O. L. Bishop, who came here about two months ago, was presented and accepted forthwith.

While for a week past there have been rumors afloat that Rev. Bishop, who left the city unexpectedly about ten days ago, had done so because of trouble of some nature or other, the real cause of his leaving was kept secret for the time being, or until the church could receive and accept his resignation, which had been demanded. This action took place last night and the details of the scandal, for such it is, were given out today.

While all the facts in Rev. Bishop's case are not known, enough has come to light to show that he had a "past" that would not bear the calcium light of publicity. His alleged indiscretions, which are termed by the local congregation as conduct unbecoming a minister of the gospel, are said to have been committed in a Kansas town where he was presiding over a congregation of the Baptist church. His conduct in this instance is said to have been scandalous in more than one particular, so much so in fact, that when he left the church there, its members refused to grant him a satisfactory letter of dismissal that he might affiliate with the Las Vegas church as pastor.

How He Was Exposed.

The first intimation that the local congregation had that Rev. Bishop was not all he professed to be was given several weeks ago at the meeting here of the Baptist conference. At this meeting there was among the delegates a clergyman who knew of Rev. Bishop's trouble back in Kansas, and who was astonished to find him out here occupying a pulpit. This man is said to have told what he knew of Rev. Bishop to members of the Baptist church here. An investigation was begun with the result that the local Baptist church is now minus a pastor.

Rev. Bishop came here from Colorado Springs. He had not been preaching for some time, owing to his wife's sickness. He made a very good impression on the local congregation. He

had good recommendations and a diploma showing that he was a graduate of William Jewell college, Missouri, a theological school of national reputation. In appearance, Rev. Bishop was a fine looking man. Besides he was a good pulpit orator, a hard worker and made many friends during his brief stay here. There are many in the congregation who are inclined to be charitable with him in his present trouble, and who regret that it was necessary to do away with his services as pastor. In fact a few of them are said to have suggested that he be given a chance to explain matters and, if he had done wrong, but had shown a disposition to live down his misdeeds, to give him another trial. These members, however, were in the minority, as the result shows.

When Rev. Bishop left Las Vegas he is said to have gone to Colorado Springs. From there he is believed to have gone to Delta, Colo., and today it was reported that he is in Olathe, Colo., where his family who left today will join him.

Official Statement Issued.

The members of the Baptist church at their meeting last night prepared an official statement for publication. This statement was given out today and reads:

"At a meeting of the members of the First Baptist church of this city held December 22nd, 1909, the following report was adopted and ordered to be printed:

"Upon investigation by our territorial secretary, Dr. P. W. Longfellow, it has come to our knowledge that the conduct of Rev. O. L. Bishop in a previous Kansas pastorate has been such as does not become him as a minister of the gospel and in consequence the church of which he was a member, has refused to grant him a satisfactory letter of dismissal to unite with this church, therefore he was requested by the territorial secretary to tender his resignation as pastor of this church. At the general business meeting of the church this evening his resignation was presented and accepted.

(Signed:) A. H. HARRIS,

"Moderator.

(Signed:) W. R. HINDMAN, Clerk."

ALTITUDE MAY PREVENT
FIGHT IN SALT LAKE

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 23.—"I do not think that the Jeffries-Johnson fight will ever be held in Salt Lake," said Governor William Spry, of Utah, here last night. The governor and his party arrived here last night to attend the launching of the Battleship Utah. The governor was asked directly whether he would permit the fight to be pulled off in Salt Lake.

"It is not a question of what I, in my official capacity should allow," he said smilingly. "The fact is that Jeffries has been accustomed to fighting in San Francisco and really, gentlemen, I do not think he would be able to fight in the high altitude of Salt Lake."

O. R. C. DETERMINED TO
SECURE COOK'S FREEDOM

Guadalajara, Mexico, Dec. 23.—In an effort to arouse general interest in the United States and thus secure immediate action by the state department for the release of James A. Cook, the American railroad conductor in the penitentiary here, members of Guadalajara Division No. 540, Order of Railway Conductors, have prepared an "appeal" to the American people, sending it broadcast. Copies are being mailed to members of congress. In the appeal Former Ambassador Thompson is declared to have written a letter that prejudiced the Cook case with the state department.

ZELAYA AT BATTLESHIP HEAD OF ARMY UTAH IS KING

PREPARES TO RESIST ADVANCE
OF THE INSURGENT
FORCES

MORE FIGHTING CERTAIN

GENERAL ESTRADA REPORTED
TO BE MOVING ON TO
MANAGUA

CARING FOR WOUNDED

THOSE WHO FELL IN BATTLE AT
RAMA RECEIVING EVERY
ATTENTION

Washington, Dec. 23.—Messages received by the state department today indicate that ex-President Zelaya has assumed personal direction of the military operations in western Nicaragua, and stubborn resistance to the advance of the revolutionary army is now looked for. Riots are reported at Masaya and Granada. The officials here, however, regard the recent overwhelming victory of the revolutionary forces at Rama as the beginning of the end of Zelaya, Madria and their faction as potential factors in Nicaragua, and that within a month General Estrada will be de facto president of Nicaragua.

Gen. Estrada on Offensive.

Bluefields, Dec. 23.—General Estrada, it is said, will immediately assume the offensive against the government of President Madria. The insurgent leader holds that the Zelaya element was removed from consideration by the sweeping battle at Rama. A march on Managua is now believed to be imminent. The prisoners captured at Rama have been well fed and all who now espouse the cause of Estrada, will be armed and enrolled in the ranks of the insurgents. It is understood that Estrada's movement on Managua will be by way of Greytown, which he expects to capture with but little show of resistance. Today Bluefields realizes what real war means. The wounded all the hospitals and the dead lie in many homes. American surgeons from the cruiser Des Moines are giving splendid assistance in the care of the wounded.

DON MARGARITO ROMERO TO MAKE LITTLE WAIFS HAPPY

Among the Christmas ceremonies, the one watched with the greatest interest among the Spanish children, especially among those of the poorer classes, is the Pinatas, which will be given by Don Margarito Romero at Mackel's opera house on Christmas afternoon, starting at 1 o'clock.

The afternoon is most enjoyably spent playing games, dancing and listening to music which is furnished throughout the afternoon. The greatest sport is a game where the youngsters are blindfolded and sent out to strike a package suspended from the center of the ceiling. There are usually about 50 contestants all of whom receive a beautiful prize. Following this entertainment the hall is cleared and all enjoy a grand "balle", after which about one thousand packages are given away to all the children who attend these festivities.

The packages given away contain two large oranges, five apples, a half pound of mixed candy and a toy of some description. The clerks at the Romero Mercantile company store have been busy several days getting these packages ready and are still at work. In the store rooms of the mercantile company are piled boxes upon boxes of these packages which will be taken to Mackel's opera house on Christmas day and given out to poor children.

It has been the custom of Mr. Romero to do this act of charity for many years past. He believes in caring for those who are not provided for when all the other children in the community

GIANT WARSHIP LAUNCHED TO-
DAY, WITHOUT A RIVAL IN
WORLD'S NAVIES

ALL BIG GUN TYPE

FIFTH FIGHTING VESSEL OF THIS
DESCRIPTION IN UNITED
STATES NAVY

ITS MAMMOTH DISPLACEMENT

THIS TOTALS 22,000 TONS—WILL
CARRY A CREW OF 1,000
MEN

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 23.—The Battleship Utah, was launched at the New York Shipbuilding company's yards at Camden, N. J. this morning. The new battleship is declared to have no equal afloat as a first-class fighting machine. She is the fifth of the all-big gun-type of battleships for the U. S. navy. Her displacement is nearly 22,000 tons, or 2,000 greater than the Battleships Delaware and North Dakota, and she is expected to develop a speed of more than 20 3/4 knots an hour. There will be ten 12-inch guns in her main armament. Sixteen 5-inch quick firing guns will be provided for her own defense against torpedo boat attacks. The main armor belt will be about eight feet wide with an average thickness of ten inches. She will carry a crew of a thousand men.

FARMERS SPEND \$100,000
FOR FINE AUTOMOBILES

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 23.—J. C. Coe, a Saskatchewan farmer, dropped in to Detroit yesterday, and by the time he had finished his visit, had purchased thirty automobiles for his farmer friends in the far Northwest. He was not an agent. He simply told his neighbors he was going east, and they gave him their orders, accompanied by bank drafts. The deals, which were mostly cash, aggregated nearly \$100,000. The cars he bought were all high grade, several being of the four to five thousand dollar class. The bumper wheat crops in the Northwest, he said, were the cause of so much prosperity.

SENATOR M'LAURIN, SOUTHERN
STATESMAN, DIES SUDDENLY

Jackson, Miss., Dec. 23.—United States Senator A. J. McLaurin died suddenly last night at his home in Brandon. Death was due to an attack of heart failure and came without the slightest warning at 6:30 o'clock.

When the fatal stroke overcame him, Senator McLaurin was seated in a rocking chair in front of the fire in his library. He suddenly fell forward without speaking a word and life was extinct when members of his family reached him. The swift summons of death followed within a few moments a remark by Senator McLaurin that he was then feeling better than at any time since his recent severe illness, resulting from an attack of ptomaine poisoning.

As to a successor to Senator McLaurin, it is pointed out that an appointment might be made immediately by Governor Noel, or that the

new senator might be selected by the state legislature which meets in January. Senator McLaurin, who was 61 years of age, began his first term in the United States senate in 1894, but was elected governor of Mississippi in 1895, and served in that office four years.

He was elected again to the senate in 1900 and served one term. He then returned for the term which began March 4, 1907. His present term of office would have expired March 3, 1913.

Senator McLaurin was a lawyer and began the study of law in 1868 after he had served through the civil war as a private in the Confederate army. He was born on March 26, 1848, at Brandon, Miss., and was raised on a farm. He entered the Confederate army when he was sixteen years old. Seven children survive him.

ly at 3:30 p. m. Preceding the big game a preliminary contest will be held between the girls of the high school and the girls' team of the normal university. This also promises to be an exciting contest. The price of admission will be 50 and 25 cents. Tickets are on sale at the Y. M. C. A. and at Murphey's drug store.

The Las Vegas team will line-up as follows: John Webb, center; Geo. Pritchett, (captain) guard; Tom Trudger, guard; Will Koogler, forward; Frank Winters, forward and Claire Cundiff, forward.

There is plenty of room in the armory and a big crowd should be on hand to root for the boys who will represent the red and white.

BIG BATCH OF CHINKS
SLATED FOR DEPORTATION

James A. Smith, a deputy United States marshal, of Albuquerque, who arrived in the city last night on No. 8, departed this afternoon for San Francisco, having in charge two Chinamen, Fong Wing and Fong Sam, who are to be deported from the United States. Mr. Smith will take his allies to El Paso, where they will be joined by forty-four others of their race, who have been collected from Roswell, Tucumcari, Las Cruces, Alamogordo and Deming, and all of whom will be deported. The Chinamen will be turned over to the Southern Pacific Railroad company at El Paso, which road has a contract with the United States government to handle these aliens. They are deposited on the wharf at San Francisco, where they are again taken into custody by the authorities and put on board the steamer that will convey them back to China.

VIOLENT STORM RAGING
ON NORTH ATLANTIC

Queenstown, Dec. 23.—The North Atlantic ocean is being swept by storms of unusual violence. The French liner Chicago, bound from New York to Havre, had to put in here to replenish her coal and water supply. She already is running at Havre. A number of big liners, including the Lusitania, are now fighting their way through tremendous seas to New York.

FRIAR LANDS CAN BE
SOLD IN ANY QUANTITY

Washington, Dec. 23.—Attorney General Wickersham today rendered an opinion for the war department that the Philippine government has a right to sell "Friar lands" in any number of acres of desirable, notwithstanding the organic act of the Philippine government, which limited the sale of the unappropriated public lands obtained by treaty with Spain to forty acres.

DR. COOK LIED ABOUT
SCALING MOUNT M'KINLEY

New York, Dec. 23.—The report of the special committee which investigated Dr. Frederick A. Cook's claim to having reached the summit of Mount McKinley, will be delivered to the board of governors of the Explorers' Club Friday. While the investigators will not divulge the text of the report, they do not deny that it discredited Cook's claim.

END OF SWITCHMEN'S
STRIKE EXPECTED SOON

St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 23.—The end of the Switchmen's strike will probably come tomorrow. President Perham, of the railway department of the American Federation of Labor, expressed this belief today, saying the two-cent differential in wages granted the men of the mountain division, would not hinder the negotiations.

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COSTLY FIRE IN KANSAS CITY

NATURAL GAS EXPLOSION CAUSES
LOSS IN EXCESS OF
\$300,000

NEGRO JANITOR A HERO

SAVES LIVES OF SCORES OF PERSONS
AT RISK OF OWN
LIFE

OFFICE BUILDING BURNS

FIVE-STORY STRUCTURE, CORNER
NINTH AND GRAND, PREY
TO FLAMES

Kansas City, Dec. 23.—Heroic rescue work by J. Washington Johnson, a negro janitor, saved the lives of a score of persons in the Rialto building, a five-story office structure at Ninth street and Grand avenue in this city, which was destroyed early today by a fire caused by a natural gas explosion. The loss totals three hundred thousand dollars.

When the fire was discovered Johnson dashed through the halls of the floors above, where a number of physicians and medical students were sleeping and gave the alarm. When he reached the top floor, he found that Charles H. Munley was still missing. Johnson immediately plunged into the smoke filled hall, again, found the man who was half dead and carried him to safety. A second explosion occurred just as the firemen arrived and half a dozen of them were blown several feet. None were severely injured, however.

"DIXIE" RANKS FIRST
IN AMERICAN SONGS

Washington, Dec. 23.—"Dixie" has finally been officially proclaimed as the first in American songs and music in "patriotic popularity." This is the verdict of O. G. T. Sonneck, chief of the division of music of the library of congress, who has just issued from the government press an exhaustive report on four famous American musical compositions. "Yankee Doodle," he says, though no longer a national song, is still a national air and second only to "Dixie" in popularity.

PRINCE ALBERT ASCENDS
THRONE OF BELGIUM

Brussels, Dec. 23.—Albert I, king of the Belgians, with his queen Elizabeth, made a white entry into the capital from London this morning. Canbetta became a royal splendor, the church bells were rung and bands of thousands of brass subjects lined the streets, shouting a welcome. King Albert's speech from the throne was an eloquent tribute to his uncle, the late King Leopold. It said a policy of visions, would not hinder the negotiations.

TWO KILLED IN MINE EXPLOSION AT GALLUP

Gallup, N. M., Dec. 23.—Two men are dead and a dozen are lingering between life and death as the result of a volcanic outburst of gas yesterday when workmen in the Weaver mine of the American Fuel company near here broke into the workings of the old mine, which has been afire for seven years. The dead:

PORFIRIO GARCIA,
MIQUEL ARANDA.

Both victims are Old Mexico Mexicans who had been employed for some time past digging coal for the company. The catastrophe came without warning while the men were at work driving the main slope in the Weaver mine. For some reason the men were unaware of their proximity to the slumbering inferno of the old mine

which has been burning fiercely in the bowels of the earth since it was sealed up seven years ago. When the miners suddenly broke through the thin crust over the volcano an immense volume of flames and gas shot out with terrific force, completely enveloping the workmen before they had a chance to escape. A large number of the men were taken out overcome by the fumes, Garcia and Aranda being alive when taken out of the mine but dying a few minutes afterward. Some of the surviving victims are still in a critical condition but most of them are expected to recover.

The subterranean fire exhausted itself apparently with the first blast and no further danger is apprehended, the hole having been again sealed up. Work will continue at the mine without interruption.